

Draft Water Strategy Economic Roundtables and Community Conversations Summary

Background

During the development of the Water Strategy, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) employed outreach strategies to assure public involvement and engagement in the collaborative plan. Following the Draft Water Strategy release, 16 meetings were held across the state to share the Strategy with regional partners and members of the general public. The goal was to gather input to identify areas where interested parties could take leadership roles to carry out the recommendations of the Water Strategy. This helped to develop shared ownership of the Strategy, its goals and recommendations. The OGL also accepted written comments. Below is a list of recurring themes from the public review process, from meetings and written comments:

1. Strategy implementation seems heavily focused on state actors; there is a need to incorporate more actions by non-governmental organizations and others.
2. The Stewardship Chapter should be strengthened and the focus on water literacy and education broadened beyond kindergarten through twelfth grade levels.
3. More volunteer opportunities need to be available and require an outreach campaign to all Michigan residents.
4. There is a need to incorporate additional focus on protection of water resources and pollution prevention.
5. There needs to be a stronger focus on stormwater management and solutions to allow for creation of stormwater utilities.
6. The importance of wetlands should be incorporated more prominently.
7. Water affordability and access to water as a human right are important issues and a plan to address this should be included.
8. Accountability and implementation should be more clearly articulated; there needs to be more discussion about funding for water resources both for existing programs and for those needed to implement the Strategy.
9. Need continued effort to develop a regulatory framework and agency collaboration to support the achievement of goals in the strategy, particularly innovation, technologies, and infrastructure
10. The Water Strategy should include a stronger reference to the significance of regional coordination and its importance in Michigan's ability to achieve State goals.

Regional Roundtable Meetings

Between June and August 2015, the OGL reconvened participants from the initial economic roundtable discussions held in 2013 in each of the ten economic prosperity regions across the state as part of the Water Strategy public outreach process. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss the draft strategy, solicit constructive input, and identify regional actors willing to take the lead or be involved in implementation aspects of the Strategy. Regional meetings were held in Marquette, Traverse City, Gaylord, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Flint, St. Johns, Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor and Detroit.

Summary of Key Themes

The broad themes that arose from the regional discussions are as follows:

1. *Regional and Local Coordination:* Michigan needs to work with other states and provinces to make sure that other governing units are doing their part to manage water resources across the region. A work group or advisory council could be created to help with Water Strategy implementation.
2. *Education:* Water resource education is most effective at the local level (placed-based). Future leaders will come from science, technology, engineering and mechanical (STEM-educated) backgrounds. There needs to be a thoughtful approach to creating the next leaders; a network of educators would be helpful.
3. *Community Engagement:* More outreach regarding water issues is needed. Not many communities can relate to Marquette, Grand Rapids, or Detroit, and so there needs to be outreach specific to smaller communities. We need to show the relationship between good infrastructure and the affects to surface water and water quality. We need to share the positive stories of the Great Lakes and success stories, especially related to grant and bond programs. Outreach and education is needed for local units of government regarding watershed planning and water issues such as water use and water quality.
4. *Septic Code:* Septic requirements should be considered from a regional perspective. Implementation of a septic code would help with nutrient loading in the Great Lakes and septic system education for owners is important.
5. *Funding:* Additional and continued infrastructure funding is needed. We should develop partnerships to create funding mechanisms to support infrastructure.
6. *Technology:* Regulation needs to keep up with innovation. A technological revolution, or innovative technology, is key to attracting economic development.
7. *Universities and researchers:* A connection should be made between regulation, industry and universities and researchers. Universities and researchers have new tools and technologies available that would help meet water quality goals.
8. *Water use:* Applying a cost to water is a real possibility and the overuse of water is an issue that should be investigated. There should be a tax or charge on water withdrawals to assist in paying for Water Strategy goals.

Regional Discussions

Region 1: Marquette

Participants demonstrated that the Great Lakes, especially Lake Superior, are very important to the social, environmental and economic vitality of the region. Due to this fact, water use issues and contamination clean up are key factors to the region.

Participants found that implementation of infrastructure solutions could be achieved by communities in the Bay de Noc area working together. Better public messaging regarding the relationship between good infrastructure investments and the effects on water quality in Lake Superior could be made. Better messaging is especially needed for smaller, rural communities. Local companies could start reporting on water use to help understand future water needs. Local leaders including mayors and city managers need to be involved in implementation. The UP city managers meet on an annual basis; this can be an opportunity to promote implementation of the Water Strategy.

Region 2: Traverse City

Contamination clean up and contamination prevention is a very important topic for northwest Michigan as is harbor restoration and safe harbors. Education in the science, technology, engineering, and mechanics subjects are important for environmental stewardship and the development of strong local leaders.

Participants found that the development of a community organization would help implement the goals of the Water Strategy. A connection was also made between technical training at local colleges and implementation of new water technologies for water reuse and reclamation.

Region 3: Gaylord

Getting septic codes passed, and thereby addressing some of the nutrient loading issues, is a key concern to this region. Contamination clean up and contamination prevention is an important topic for this region as well. Environmental education, access to the Great Lakes and an improvement to the water trail system are other key topics. One participant noted that there is already a regional effort in place to improve recreational and tourism resources – trails, fishing access and waterways.

Region 4: Grand Rapids

Participants' key topics included: over fertilization and subsequent contamination issues, water use, keeping Michigan competitive in the marketplace and funding for infrastructure improvements. Water quality concerns, specifically in Muskegon Lake, were of great import as well.

Participants noted that there is an opportunity to implement portions of the Water Strategy by reaching out to business organizations and promoting innovative technologies. A process is already in place to create a regional strategy to improve Muskegon Lake and Muskegon Port – a similar process could be used to implement other goals of the Water Strategy. Participants highlighted the importance of bringing in a diverse array of regional

partners. Another implementation opportunity that participants voiced was the creation of a strategy of bringing more place-based education to local classrooms.

Region 5: Saginaw

One of the key topics in this region was the alignment of governance and innovative technology, that is, making regulation flexible enough to allow for innovation especially in the wastewater treatment sector. The importance of innovative technology itself was also highlighted. Stormwater infrastructure funding was another key topic.

There is a great opportunity to further the goals of the Water Strategy by working with the “Blue Green Network.” In this region, the participants also saw the opportunity for place-based education to help with the idea of connectedness and watershed education. There is also an opportunity to bring together regulators and universities to help implement some of the goals of the Water Strategy. A local work group, consisting of utility managers, drain commissioners and city planners, could be formed to get feedback on ways to implement the Water Strategy. The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe is willing to collaborate with another partner on a watershed management plan.

Region 6: Flint

Nutrient loading issues from agricultural practices is a key topic in this region, as well as water use and pharmaceutical contamination in wastewater. Participants also highlighted the importance of place making and smart growth.

One participant found that a good implementation opportunity would be to educate local officials regarding stormwater, recreation and the Water Strategy in general.

Region 7: St. Johns

Participants in this region were focused on water conservation and reuse, water quality monitoring and aquatic invasive species. The importance of a water based economy and the need to attract business was also a key topic.

Region 8: Kalamazoo

Water use and the commoditization of water were key topics in this region. Participants were concerned with the quantification of water withdrawals, wetland protection, and contamination cleanup.

One participant had a history of working on water trails in Michigan and looks forward to engaging with the Department of Natural Resources on the heritage trails and water trails.

Region 9: Ann Arbor

Participants in this region found that water quality improvement, wetland conservation, community education about contamination cleanup projects and education for local officials on watersheds are issues of great importance. The need for a stormwater infrastructure funding source, a stormwater utility, and additional funding for asset management were also discussed..

An opportunity for Strategy implementation could be hosting a local unit of government workshop to educate elected officials on the Water Strategy and water issues.

Region 10: Detroit

A big topic of concern in this region is keeping water affordable for users. Other topics were: charging gas companies and other users for groundwater use and stormwater infrastructure funding.

Implementation in this region would be best done thorough local community groups and business associations, the Michigan Sea Grant is an example of a group that could help implement. It was also noted that groups and associations that are already in existence should work together to implement the Water Strategy.

Community Conversations

The OGL also hosed six community conversations across the state. The community conversations were open to the public. The meetings were held in Marquette, Traverse City, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Ann Arbor and Detroit.

The broad themes that arose from the community conversations are as follows:

1. A unified septic code for the State of Michigan is greatly needed.
2. Regulation needs to align with the needs of the community and continue to protect public trust resources.
3. More funding opportunities need to be made available to support implementation of recommendations in the Water Strategy, specifically for infrastructure improvements, to address emerging pollutants and to improve Michigan's trails.
4. Water affordability is a big issue in some areas of Michigan – water should be a guaranteed human right.
5. The effects of water withdrawals should be monitored.
6. The pipelines, mines, leaking underground storage tanks and household sanitary waste contamination sources should be addressed across the state.

Marquette

A participant expressed concerns about the future of Michigan's water and the need to protect water resources, enforce regulations, and prevent pollution from a variety of activities including confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), mining, movement of hydrocarbons in pipelines, leaking underground storage tanks and legacy contamination from industry. Concern for future needs for freshwater from other parts of the county and world and the potential of Great Lakes water diversions were also mentioned. Also raised was the observation that environmental pollution sometimes occurs in communities with higher poverty rates. Support was given for the recommendation of a statewide sanitary septic code and routine inspections of septic systems.

Traverse City

Participants asked questions about how the state works with partners across the Great Lakes region on water issues and to address threats to water resources from places outside of Michigan. A participant asked about whether the final Water Strategy would further address aquaculture. Participants also asked whether the MDEQ would have additional funding for local governments to implement the strategy. Other participants commented on current and future water use, specifically water withdrawals for hydraulic fracturing wells and bottled water and the potential for diversions of water in the future. Participants questioned how the strategy would address future threats like climate change and needs for water. Participants also commented on the need to balance different uses and needs for water.

Grand Rapids

A participant commented that the strategy relies on voluntary measures and needs to include rural land management strategies and mandatory measures particularly regarding phosphorus reduction in western Lake Erie. Participants mentioned that the strategy should better describe agency and funding integration in order for recommendations to be accomplished. A comment was made on the need for a statewide sanitary septic code. Fracking should be more fully addressed in the water strategy and the improvements to the water withdrawal assessment tool. A participant commented that the strategy should include reference to the relationship between tree loss and effects on water, noting reforestation was historically used in urban centers contributed to improve drinking water quality. A question was raised whether there was agency integration between the Clean Power Plan and the water strategy.

Saginaw

Participants commented on the need to address barriers to implementing recommendations including addressing regulations that conflict with philosophy of the water strategy and its ability to be implemented. Several participants asked how the strategy would be funded and identified a need for funding to support local implementation efforts. Participants questioned the durability of the strategy beyond the current administration. A participant noted that there are many efforts working on similar initiatives creating difficulty to know who is doing what and how to best connect efforts. Participants also commented that more people need to be aware of the water strategy and a DVD or video should be made available to the public to increase awareness. One

participant suggested that stronger action oriented language be used in the Strategy and its recommendations.

Ann Arbor

Several participants commented about the need to address the dioxin contaminated groundwater and risk to drinking water wells in the Ann Arbor area. Another participant commented on the need for more emphasis on climate change. Other participants asked questions about outreach, education and communication strategies and whether the Pure Michigan campaign could be used to engage people in stewardship of Michigan's water resources. Participants noted that local government should be more engaged and involved and suggested that industry be more engaged in water conservation particularly on their own property. Some questioned how the strategy would be sustained with changes in leadership and administrations and whether it was already being implemented.

Detroit

Many comments were made about high water rates, the need for affordable water, water as a human right for drinking and sanitation, and the importance of treated water for public health. Several comments were made about environmental justice issues pertaining to emergency management in Detroit, high water rates, and water shutoffs. A participant noted that sustainable funding is key to achieve goals such as sediment remediation and infrastructure investment and that state based funding that has historically been available, such as the Clean Michigan Initiative, is now declining. Several comments were made about the need to address stormwater, infrastructure, and sewer overflows that are contributing nutrients to water resources. More adaptive management and public trust doctrine principles should be incorporated in the strategy. Other participants commented about the need for waste recovery systems and innovation to address water challenges.

List of Regional Roundtable Meetings Attendees

Region 1

Vicki Schwab, Delta County Economic Development Alliance
Kathy Reynolds, Greater Munising Bay Partnership for Commerce
Dennis West, Northern Initiatives
Anne Shishkovsky Milne, Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission
Tom Baldini, City Commissioner, Former Chair International Joint Commission
Rob Beranek, Cliff Natural Resources
Steve Casey, Department of Environmental Quality
John Madigan, Pictured Rocks Cruises
John Kivela, Senator Casperson's Office
Sara Cambensy, City Commission Marquette
Jen Johnson, Department of Natural Resources

Region 2

Senator Darwin Boohar, Michigan Senate
Nate Winkler, Conservation Resource Alliance
Dan Behring, Portage Lake Watershed
Mary Reed, Portage Lake Watershed
Denny Blue, Great Lakes Small Harbor Coalition and Michigan Port Collaborative
Joe Elliot, Grand Traverse Conservation District
Kim Pontius, Traverse Area Association of Realtors
Becky Ewing, Rotary Charities of Traverse City
Christine Crissman, Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay
Glen Chown, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
Hans VanSumeren, Northwestern Michigan College

Region 3

Brad Jensen, Huron Pines
Lydia Murray, Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Grenetta Thomassey, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
Kristen Daniels, Moran Iron Works
Mark Copeland, Jay's Sporting Goods
Joe Hefe, City of Rogers City
Rick Deuell, Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
Craig Cotterman, Denton Township Supervisor

Region 4

Dr. Haris Alibasic, City of Grand Rapids, Energy and Sustainability
Elaine Sterrett Isely, West Michigan Environmental Action Council
Gail Heffner, Calvin College
Kathy Evans, West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Council
Mark Knudsen, Ottawa County Planning and Performance Improvement
Tim Mroz, The Right Place, Inc.
Kelly Goward, Macatawa Area Coordinating Council
Mike Lund, City of Grand Rapids, Environmental Services
Patty Birkholz, Michigan League of Conservation Voters
Victoria Luthy, County of Muskegon
Joe Bush, Ottawa County Water Resources Commission
Jessica Vander Ark, West Michigan Environmental Action Council
Colton Zysh, West Michigan Environmental Action Council
Brian Gunderman, Department of Natural Resources
Bonnie Broadwater, Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Michael Staal, City of Grand Rapids, Environmental Services
Sara Simmonds, Kent County Health Department, Environmental Health Division
Roger Victory, 88th District, Michigan House of Representatives
Bonnie Gettys, Barry Community Foundation

Region 5

Jonathan Jarosz, Heart of the Lakes
Carey Pauquette, Saginaw Chippewa Indian
Tribe of Michigan
Jane Fitzpatrick, East Michigan Council of
Governments
Carl Osentoski, Huron & Sanilac Economic
Development Corp.
Douglas Koop, Little Forks Conservancy
Eileen Curtis, Bay Area Community
Foundation
Dennis Zimmerman, Saginaw Bay Area of
Concern
Sharon Mortensen, Midland Area Community
Foundation
Tiffany Faro, Saginaw Bay Resource,
Conservation and Development Council
Joel Strasz, Bay County Health Department
Mike Kelly, Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative
Network
David Karpovich, Saginaw Valley State
University
Russ Beaubien, Spicer Group
Pete Little, Gratiot County Parks and
Recreation
Steven Smock, Michigan Sugar
Ryan Carley, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Bill Wright, Partnership for the Saginaw Bay
Watershed
Laura Ogar, Bay County Environmental
Affairs and Community Development

Region 6

Rebecca Fedewa, Flint River Watershed
Coalition
Amy McMillian, Genesee County Parks &
Recreation
Kirsten Lyons, Friends of the St. Clair River
Janet Van De Winkle, Flint River Corridor
Alliance
Patty Troy, Flint River Corridor Alliance
Sam Passmore, C.S. Mott Foundation

Region 7

Laura Campbell, Michigan Farm Bureau
Julie Stoneman, Heart of the Lakes

Meghan Swain, Michigan Association of Local
Public Health Departments
Rob Collier, Council of Michigan Foundations
Mike Jones, Michigan State University
AgBioResearch
Mark Seamon, Michigan Soybean Promotion
Committee
Brad Garmon, Michigan Environmental
Council
Liesl Eichler Clark, 5 Lakes Energy LLC
Tim Boring, Michigan Agri-Business
Association
Jerry Harte, Michigan Water Environment
Association
Regina Young, Barry-Eaton Health
Department
Gil Pezza, Michigan Economic Development
Corporation
Susan Pigg, Tri-County Regional Planning
Commission
Ashley Hale, Kuntzsch Solutions

Region 8

Tiffany Welsh
Richard Beardslee, City of Battle Creek
Perry Hart, City of Battle Creek
Christine Spitzley, Tri-County Regional
Planning Commission
Robert Whitesides, Kalamazoo River
Watershed Council
Dave Lemburg, Western Michigan University
Steve Hamilton, Kalamazoo River Watershed
Council
Teruyuki Ueyama, Michigan Sister State
Program
Dave Foerster, Two Rivers Coalition
Jay Wesley, Department of Natural Resources
Marcy Colclough, Southwest Michigan
Planning Commission
Al Gemrich, Southwest Michigan Planning
Commission
Cathy Knapp, Southwest Michigan First
Peter Terlouw, Southwest Michigan Land
Conservancy
Gil Pezza, Michigan Economic Development
Corporation
Ed Garner, Muskegon Area First
Derek Nofz, Southwest Michigan First

Region 9

Bryan Burroughs, Michigan Trout Unlimited
Rich Weirich, Frenchtown Charter Township
Elizabeth Riggs, Huron River Watershed Council
Grant Bauman, Region 2 Planning Commission
Hunter Jackson
Cheri Meyer, Department of Environmental Quality
Richard Micka, Commission on Environment, City of Monroe
Remy Long, Legacy Land Conservancy
Chris Affeldt, Department of Environmental Quality
Steve May, Lenawee County Drain Commissioner
Amy Torres, Jackson County Enterprise Group
Rhonda Wuycheck, Department of Environmental Quality
Keith McCormack, Hubbell, Roth and Clark

Region 10

Jay Richardson, Sustainable Water Works
Representative Bradford Jacobsen, Michigan House of Representatives

Bryan Hogle, The Kresge Foundation
Representative Kurt Heise, Michigan House of Representatives
Lynne Seymour, Macomb County Public Works
Steve Cole, Great Lakes Commission
Michelle Selzer, Department of Environmental Quality
Evan Pratt, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner
Jim Nash, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner
Erma Leaphant, Sierra Club
Mary Bohling, Michigan Sea Grant
Sam Molnar, Great Lakes Commission
Jason Puscas, Detroit Regional Chamber
Anne Vaara, Clinton River Watershed Council
Aimee LaLonde-Norman, Friends of the Rouge
Devan R., Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
Chuck Hersey, Public Sector Consultants
Jodee Raines, Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation
Khalil Ligon, Alliance for the Great Lakes
Ray Watts, Representative Howrylak's Office

Community Conversation Participants

Saginaw

Charles B. Anler
Mike Weiler, Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative
Ernie Kaygier, Bay County
Frank Starkweather, Saginaw Bay Water Trail
Gary Hadder, Saginaw Bay Water Trail
Rick Finn, City of Bay City
John Hall, Reporter- WSGW Radio
Katy Hintzen, Michigan Sea Grant

Detroit

Khalil Ligon, Alliance for the Great Lakes
Trent Chapman
Fontina Dozier
Danielle Conroyd, IHM Sisters River Raisin Institute

Charley Voch, Great Lakes Detroit
Tawana Petty, People's Water Board Coalition
Jerry Roszka, Windsor Essex County Canoe Club
Tyeisha Hodges, Sierra Club
Margaret Weber, Zero Waste Detroit
Jeff Klein, Classic Components Corporation/
Detroit Farms/ Gardeix
Patrick Liumpston, Michigan State University Extension
Erin Morey, Metro Matters
Kibibi Blount-Dora, Detroit Food Policy Council
Mary Bohling, Michigan Sea Grant
Alan VanKerckhove, Friends of the Rouge River

Peggy VanKerckhove
 Audrey Zarb, Wayne State University/
 Collaborative Research for Urban Waters
 Cynthia Tanner, Detroit Public TV
 Mohsen Sadatiyan, Wayne State University
 Peter J. Benz, Friends of the Detroit River
 Stephen Boyle, March Against Monsanto
 Brian Kelley, Michigan Clean Marina
 Ralph Leach, Ralph Leach Group
 Jodee Raines, Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb
 Family Foundation
 R. Burns, Friends of the Detroit River
 Rick Hobrla, Office of the Great Lakes
 Laurie Campbell, Great Lakes Education
 Program
 Lori Hutton
 George Hutton
 Sandra Turner Handy, Michigan
 Environmental Council
 Donna Walker, Sierra Club
 Eric Douglas, Detroit Climate Action
 John W. Smith, *Michigan 21st Century*
Geography author
 Fred Levantrosser
 Ankita Mandelia, MSU Sea Grant/
 International Joint Commission
 Vito Rosolino, U.S. Green Building Council
 Detroit Regional Chapter
 Michelle Selzer, Office of the Great Lakes
 Randy Block, Michigan Unitarian Universalist
 Social Justice Network
 Juanita R. Jones, JRJ Consulting, LLC/ Energy
 Choice Now
 Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club
 Travise Russellt, Sierra Club
 Melissa Damaschka, Sierra Club
 Margi Armstrong, Clean Water Action
 Genevieve Nowak, Belle Isle Conservancy
 Aimee LaLonde-Norman, Friends of the
 Rouge River
 Claire Huttenlocher, Metro Matters
 Tricia Blicharski, Friends of the Detroit River
 Sara Huetteman, Department of Natural
 Resources Explorer Program
 Traven Michaels, Food and Water Watch
 Chris Cynar, Sustainable Water Works
 Molly Cunningham, UChicago
 T. Kelly
 Gibran Washington, EcoWorks-Youth Energy
 Squad

John Glover, Tech "C"
 Cheryl Smith, U.S. Green Building Council
 Detroit Regional Chapter
 Sarah Cook, Michigan Science Center
 Russ Bellant, Helco Block Club
 Bob Mattly, Parjanz
 Tom Barrow, Detroit Future City
 Sheri Pardee, Sierra Club
 Lynn Williams
 Cora Kendnik, Henri Piper Block Club
 Nichole Rice
 Renee Y. Wallace, Doers Consulting Alliance
 Carol J. Miller, Wayne State University
 Allison Voglesong
 Sal Stable, Stormwater Recharge Systems

Ann Arbor

Mitch Adelman, Department of
 Environmental Quality
 Kevin Lund, Department of Environmental
 Quality
 Evan Pratt, Washtenaw County Water
 Resources Commissioner
 Kelly Serfling, University of Michigan School
 of Public Health
 Enz Harrington
 Anita Harrington
 Vince Caruso, Allen's Creek Watershed Group
 Shayna Petit, Michigan State
 University/Communication Workers of
 America/ Office of Representative Gretchen
 Driskell
 Drew Youngedyke, Michigan United
 Conservation Club
 Don Reef, Kayak Michigan Creeks
 Barb Aylesworth, Institute of Water Research
 Laura Davison
 Elizabeth Thompson
 Miriam Kirscht
 Peter Johnson, Conference of Great Lakes and
 St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers
 David Naftzger, Conference of Great Lakes
 and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers
 Tom Weaver, United States Geological Survey
 Michigan, Web Coverage Services
 Ralph Haefner, United States Geological
 Survey Michigan, Web Coverage Services
 Steven O'Neill, Communication Workers of
 America

Harry Freedman, Communication Workers of America

Tim Eder, Great Lakes Commission

Richard G. Micka, Commission on the Environment-Monroe

Steve Cole, Great Lakes Commission

Marquette

Patrick L. Jacuzzo, Marquette County Health Department

Sara E. Culver

Traverse City

Steve Largent, Adams Chapter Trout Unlimited

Whitney Waara, Land Information Access Association

Caitlin Nagler, Michigan League of Conservation Voters

Frank Simvins, Adams Chapter Trout Unlimited

Jeff Nelson, Michigan League of Conservation Voters

Hans VanSumoren, Northwestern Michigan College

TJ Andrews, Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay

Jack Cotrone, Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay

Grand Rapids

Peggy French, Allegan County Health Department

Randy Rapp, Allegan County Health Department

Ron Porritt

Chris Affeldt, Department of Environmental Quality

Matt Preissor, Office of the Great Lakes

Gail Philbin, Sierra Club

Michael Staal, City of Grand Rapids

Garret Ellison, Grand Rapids Press